Fiscal Estimate - 2015 Session

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LRB Number 15-3301/1	Introduction Number AB-0	597			
Description Alcohol and other drug assessments in counties	s and correctional institutions and making ar	appropriation			
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Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS 410					
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date			
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DOC 12/28/2015

LRB Number	15-3301/1	Introduction Number	AB-0597	Estimate Type	Original
Description					
Alcohol and other drug assessments in counties and correctional institutions and making an appropriation					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Currently, the DOC often has to drive inmates to their county of conviction to complete an examination of inmates' use of alcohol, controlled substances, or controlled substance analogs and for development of a driver safety plan for the person. This is necessary because many counties will not accept documentation that the inmate completed an examination of the inmates' use of alcohol, controlled substances, or controlled substance analogs and the driver safety plan for the person from the county of incarceration.

Under this bill, the DOC will be able to take inmates to a public treatment facility in their county of incarceration. This change will save the DOC an indeterminate amount of money on transportation costs. The DOC does not currently track the cost or the number of inmates sent out of county for an examination of inmates' use of alcohol, controlled substances, or controlled substance analogs and for development of a driver safety plan for the person.

Under current law, a person who is convicted of certain offenses related to operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant (OWI-related offense) is generally required to submit to and comply with an assessment by an approved public treatment facility for examination of the person's use of alcohol, controlled substances, or controlled substance analogs and for development of a driver safety plan for the person. Approved public treatment facilities are facilities that meet standards established by the Department of Health Services (DHS).

Under the bill, DOC may establish and operate a treatment facility for the purposes of providing court-ordered assessments and developing driver safety plans for persons who are inmates of a correctional facility. The bill requires DOC to comply with the standards and rules established by DHS for treatment facilities and to obtain DHS approval of the treatment facility. The bill also requires a county, tribal, or DOC treatment facility to accept and enforce compliance with a driver safety plan that is established by another county, tribal, or DOC treatment facility.

The bill is permissive in allowing the DOC to build a public treatment facility for examination of inmates' use of alcohol, controlled substances, or controlled substance analogs and for development of a driver safety plan for the person. At this time, the DOC does not intend to build a public treatment facility. Additionally, the DOC does not intend to hire any staff to provide examinations of the person's use of alcohol, controlled substances, or controlled substance analogs and for development of a driver safety plan for the person.

As of 6/30/15, there were 2,167 inmates incarcerated with active OWI offenses who could be affected by this bill.

Local county jail costs will not change as inmates in county jail do not need to be transported since they are already in their county of conviction.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications